

Artist Statement

Fred Brashear

I am a Southern California artist focusing on the environmental impact of humans in the Mojave Desert. Through artistic creation, expression, and exploration, I investigate my own past traumatic experiences in correlation with the Mojave Desert's ongoing struggle of human occupation, revealing a narrative depicting loss and tragedy. Through artistic interpretation, I portray the landscape as an extension of personal history, an extension that suffers from the apathetic actions of corporate America.

By documenting the delicate balance between human built environments versus the naturally built environment found in my desert, I present a story where the ending is not yet written, but as it stands, has a bleak outlook. Through artistic communication, I depict a landscape that is in flux, a landscape that is losing its signifying beauty. By capturing the grandeur of my environment in contrast to the irresponsible actions of human development, I bring to light the sensitive topics of loss and lack of sustainability.

I utilize various creative techniques to express the concerns surrounding my desert home. The use of photography, sculpture, eco printing and woodworking all furnish to the narrative that expresses my concern for the treatment of the desert's natural environment.

My goal is to document, preserve, or at the very least, memorialize the natural environment of the Mojave Desert so that the endemic plant life has a chance to survive the human expansion into undeveloped lands. Through my art, I am expressing a landscape that correlates with past personal traumatic experiences while attempting to prevent the further traumatic loss of the Mojave's natural habitat for future generations.